

What's new in my water system?



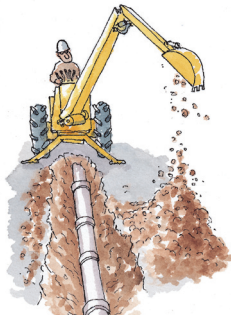
Lead testing

In June 2008 the water from 36 homes, selected based on criteria identifying them as potentially having plumbing that would leach lead into their water, were tested. This testing was the 9th round of such testing mandated by the federal

Lead and Copper Rule. Of the 36 homes, 2 had elevated lead levels. Lead is not found in the water sources. It leaches into the water from plumbing fixtures within the home. In addition, 4 samples were collected from schools and all of these sample results were within acceptable limits. The DPW does provide testing at no charge to residents who would like the water in their home tested for lead. Please call 772-1539 for more information.

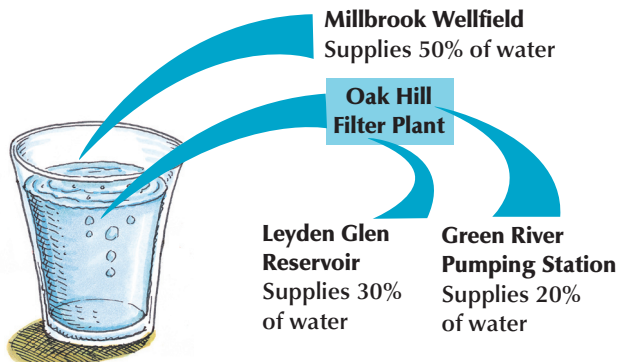
New water main

The Water Division laid 800 ft of ductile iron water pipe on Loomis Road. This line replaced an old 2 inch line and completed connection of the grid on French King Highway. The work was done with Town staff and materials cost approximately \$60,000.



WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

Average daily consumption 1,900,000 gallons



Commonly asked questions

Is Greenfield's water hard?

No! There is a common misconception that all New England water is hard. This is not true. Greenfield's water is categorized "soft" meaning it contains less than 75 ppm (less than 4 grains) of hardness.



Is Greenfield's water fluoridated?

No! Greenfield's drinking water is not now nor has ever been fluoridated. Parents should discuss their children's fluoride needs with their dentist and pediatrician.



Thank you for  conserving our water.

PLEASE CONTACT US!

The Dept of Public Works encourages comments and questions from our consumers regarding this report and Greenfield's drinking water in general. We encourage your input as to what questions you would like answered in future reports and suggestions for improvements within the system. Please call the numbers below or stop by our main office - Town Hall, 2nd floor, 14 Court Sq.

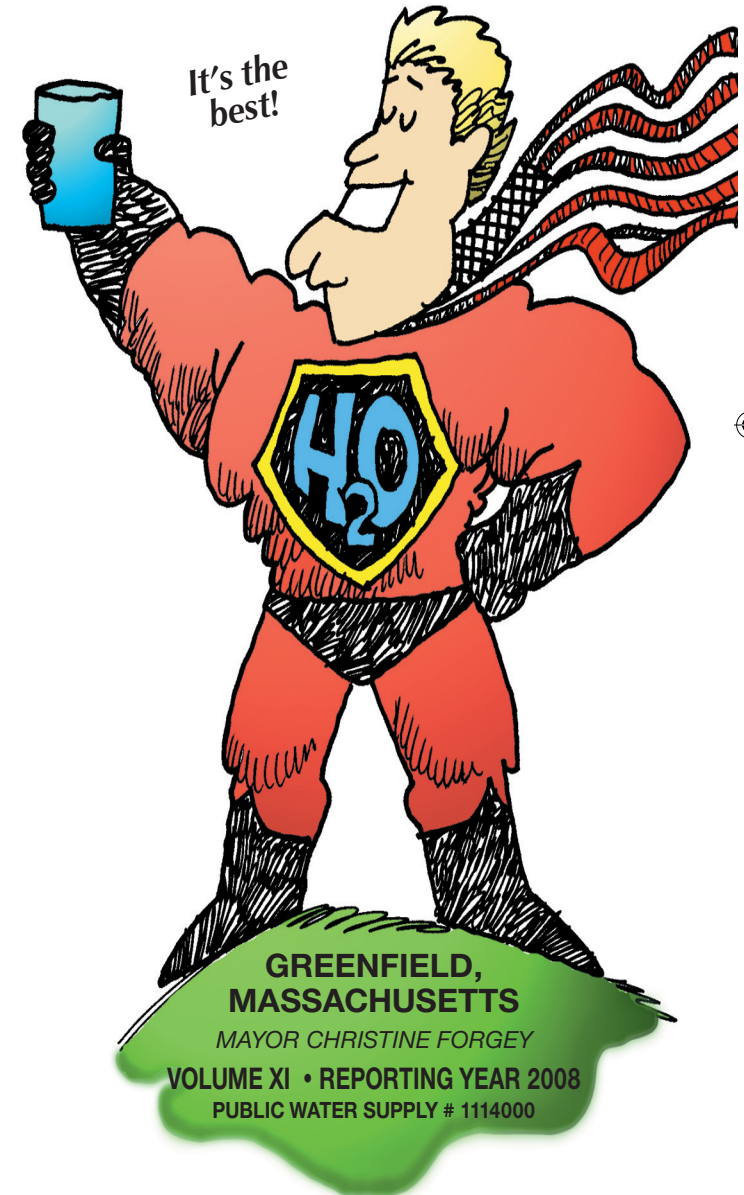
QUESTIONS REGARDING WATER QUALITY

Sandra Shields, DPW Director

772-1528 ext. 107 SandraS@townofgreenfield.org

- ★ **Leaks, low pressure, meter problems, billing information:** 772-1528 ext 100 or 106
- ★ **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline:** 1-800-426-4791
- ★ **Recycling/trash disposal questions:** 772-1528 ext 106 or JanineG@townofgreenfield.org
- ★ **Hazardous waste disposal questions:** 772-1539 or CliffordB@townofgreenfield.org
- ★ **Department of Public Works Office Hours:**
Mon. - Thurs.: 7:00 am to 5:00 pm,
Fri.: 7:00 am to 12:30 pm
- ★ **Transfer Station Hours:**
Tues. & Wed.: 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm,
Thurs. & Fri.: 11:00 pm to 2:30 pm,
Sat.: 7:30 am to 2:00 pm (Jan.-Mar.: 7:30 am to 12:00)

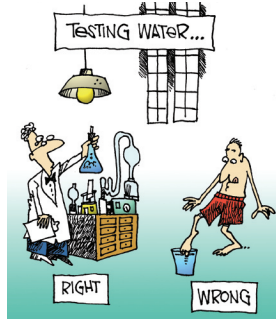
WATER QUALITY ★REPORT★



Did you know?...

On an annual basis, over 2,900 individual tests are performed on Greenfield's drinking water.

These tests include analysis of the source waters for a wide variety of substances such as pesticides, inorganic compounds and radioactive substances. Daily, the water that leaves the treatment plant is tested for bacteria, pH, turbidity and chlorine residual. Monthly, over 30 bacteriological tests are performed on the water from all sections of town to insure that the water maintains high quality as it travels through miles of distribution lines.



Water conservation tips

Ultra-low-flush toilets, which cost from under \$100 to over \$200 depending on the type purchased, use only about 1.6 gallons of water per flush. That could cut your family's total indoor water use by as much as 20%!

Check every faucet in the house for leaks and be sure the toilets are not running. A single dripping faucet can waste far more water in a single day than one person needs for drinking in an entire week! If you are sure you don't have any leaks inside your home, but still hear water running, there maybe a leak in your service connection (the line from the street to your house). Call the DPW at 772-1528 to have this checked.



Where does your water go?

On average, each Greenfield resident uses 100 gallons of water every day. You can reduce your water use by as much as 30% if you are efficient!

- ★ 27% Toilet flushing
- ★ 21% Laundry
- ★ 19% Shower & Bath
- ★ 16% Faucets
- ★ 14% Leaks
- ★ 2% Other
- ★ 1% Dishwashing



SUBSTANCES DETECTED Below are substances that were detected in the Town's drinking water during the years listed next to the parameter. None of these substances were detected above the allowable limit.

CHEMICAL PARAMETERS						
Substance/year	Units	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL) *	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	Ideal Goals (EPA's MCLG) *	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Barium '04	ppm	2.0	0.008	0.008	2.0	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate '08	ppm	10.0	0.8	0.22 - 0.80	10.0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chlorine '08	ppm	MRDL = 4	1.45	0.29 - 1.45	MRDLG = 4	Water treatment chemical used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes '08	ppb	100	16.8 Annual average	7.7 - 25.2	0	Disinfection by-products
Haloacetic Acids '08	ppb	60	10.0 Annual average	8.1 - 12.0	n/a	Disinfection by-products
Radium 226 & 228 '03	pCi/l	5	0.8	0.2 - 1.0	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity* '08	NTU	Treat tech* = 1	0.55	.02 - 0.55	none	Soil runoff
Lead '08	ppb	Action level* = 15	5.2 90th percentile	1.0 - 58.0 2 sites > 15	0	Household plumbing and service connections
Copper '08	ppm	Action level* = 1.3	0.98 90th percentile	0.10 - 1.67 2 sites > 1.3	1.3	Household plumbing and service connections
Sodium '08	ppm	N/A	3.2	3.2	N/A	Runoff from stormwater
Sulfate '04	ppm	N/A	6.4	6.4	N/A	Natural sources

DEFINITIONS:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there are no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):

The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

ppm: One part per million (this would be one penny in \$10,000)

ppb: One part per billion (one penny in \$10,000,000)

***Treatment Technique:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

***Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow. Action levels are reported at the 90th percentile for homes at greatest risk.

***Turbidity:** Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.



Are there any precautions some of our customers should consider?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The Town is mandated by EPA to include the following generic language about the health effects of certain contaminants and drinking water sources:

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of certain substances, which EPA calls "contaminants" even if

the source of the contaminant is from naturally occurring phenomena such as rock formations. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include microbial, inorganic, organic and radioactive contaminants.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.